WOODFORD COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE KENTUCKY GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (January 16, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Addison Moore** of **Woodford County High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Kentucky Girls Cross Country Player of the Year**. Moore is the first Gatorade Kentucky **Girls Cross Country** Player of the Year to be chosen from Woodford County High School.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their success on the field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Moore as Kentucky's best high school girls cross country athlete, and she joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Jordan Hasay (2008-09, Mission College Preparatory Catholic High School, Ca.), Katelyn Tuohy (2017-18, 2018-19 & 2019-20, North Rockland High School, N.Y.) and Addison Ritzenhein (2023-24, Niwot High School, Co.).

The 5-foot-4 junior won the Class 3A state title this past season, breaking the tape with an all-class best clocking of 18:06.82 to defend her crown. The state's returning Gatorade Girls Cross Country Player of the Year, Moore went on to finish 55th at the Foot Locker South Region championships. Limited by an injury that lingered since the 2024 indoor track season, she posted wins in four of her five races prior to regionals, including a season-best 18:02.65 to win Region 6.

A member of her school's Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter, Moore has volunteered extensively on behalf of the Southland Christian Church in Nicholasville. She has also donated her time as an assistant running coach for Huntertown Elementary School and with the Catholic Action Center. "Moore closed the season strong in the state postseason rounds and toughed out a limited training schedule to defend her state title in the largest classification," said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack.

Moore has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports – football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field – and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Two-time winner Moore joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Girls Cross Country Player of the Year Ciara O'Shea (2022-23, 2021-22 & 2020-21, Madison Central High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u>. Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> and X(Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.